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3500.016112

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
TAKAYUKI TSUKIMOTO, ET AL. ) Examiner: M. Budd  
Application No.: 10/044,936 ) Group Art Unit: 2834  
Filed: January 15, 2002 )  
For: VIBRATION ELEMENT )  
AND VIBRATION WAVE )  
DRIVING APPARATUS ) November 19, 2003

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT,  
SUBMISSION OF CORRECTED CLAIM SHEET AND  
REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF TIMELY SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Sir:

Applicants are in receipt of an Official Communication mailed November 5, 2003, indicating that the Amendment filed October 2, 2003, is non-compliant (37 CFR § 1.121). Specifically, the Notice indicates that the Amendment is non-compliant because in the amendments to the claims “(C) each claim has not been provided with proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim can not be identified;” and “(E) other: Claims stated to be cancelled but exist as original claims in the Amendment.”

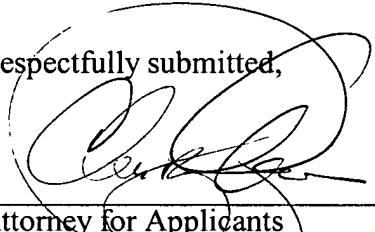
In a telephone communication with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on or about November 14, 2003, Applicants’ attorney was advised that a complete response to the Official Communication required submission of only a corrected version of the claims section of the Amendment filed October 2, 2003. Accordingly, submitted herewith are corrected pages 3 to 11 of the Amendment previously filed October 2, 2003 (the

“Claims” portion), in which each of the claims have been provided with a proper status identifier; in this regard, cancelled claims has been indicated as cancelled and the text thereof has been deleted, compliant with 37 CFR § 1.121.

Applicants also respectfully request entry and consideration of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement timely filed November 4, 2003, in association with further examination of the subject application.

Applicants believe that the present response is fully responsive to the Official Communication mailed November 5, 2003, and submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the subject application at the Examiner’s earliest convenience, earnestly are requested.

Applicants’ undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for Applicants  
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